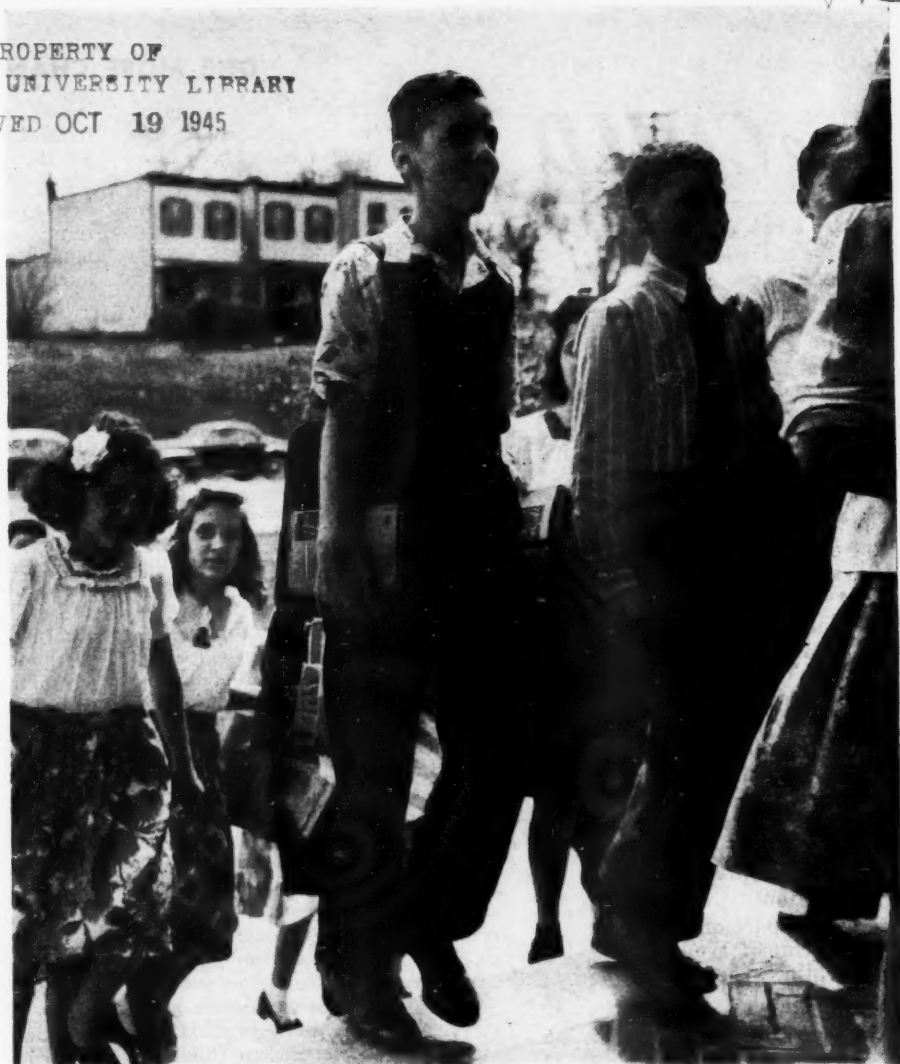


PROPERTY OF
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
RECEIVED OCT 19 1945



VOL. 10—NO. 3
SEPTEMBER 1945

The CHILD

U.S. CHILDREN'S BUREAU • U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

UNRRA Works for Children

The Bridge Between Today and Tomorrow

Learning About Child Labor

The CHILD

MONTHLY BULLETIN

Editor MIRIAM KEELER
Assistant Editor SARAH L. DORAN

CONTENTS

	Page
One More Chance, by Katharine F. Lenroot	34
UNRRA Works for Children, by Martha Branscombe	35
The Bridge Between Today and Tomorrow	39
Learning About Child Labor	40
Belt-and-Buckle Factory Owner Fined for Child-Labor Violation	41
Secretary Schwollenbach Revokes Wartime Child-Labor Exemption	42
Children's Bureau Continues Its Series on Trends in Child Labor	42
Interagency Committee on Youth Employment and Education	42
British Report on Children Born Out of Wedlock	43
How Polio Struck in Malta ..	44
Health Notes	45
For Your Bookshelf	46
Children Around the World ..	47
A Message From the Secretary of Labor to America's High-School-Age Boys and Girls	48

The photograph on the cover, of children returning to school, by Philip Bonn, is used by courtesy of the U. S. Office of Education.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
L. B. SCHWOLLENBACH, Secretary
CHILDREN'S BUREAU
KATHARINE F. LENROOT, Chief

ONE MORE CHANCE!

Postwar planning has occupied much of our thought in recent months. Much of it has been concerned with physical and economic problems; some of it with more personal needs. Action to achieve the goals for the next 10 years, set in 1940 by the White House Conference on Children in a Democracy, was greatly retarded by war necessities. "Some of the recommendations of that conference were translated into postwar terms in the recent report of the National Commission on Children in Wartime, called "Building the Future for Children and Youth."

Now, with dramatic suddenness, we are in the postwar period. Thanksgiving for victory and the opportunity that victory has placed in the hands of the free peoples of the world must lead us to the resolve that never again shall the horrors of war be unleashed upon mankind, for if they are it will mean the destruction of civilization. We have the scientific knowledge, the technical and managerial skill, and the material resources to work out ways of life upon this small planet that will mean peace, plenty, and opportunity for all. But do we have the insight and the character, the conviction and the dedication, to use these resources for such a goal? Can we so guide and educate our children that they can be trusted to use the secrets of the universe for the welfare and not the destruction of humanity? If we and our children, the children of this generation, fail, our material resources and the gadgets our science has produced will crumble into dust and we, too, will become a defeated Nation, or more likely, a people utterly destroyed.

We know some of the first steps to take in preparing our children for the power they will hold in their hands, for they have been well-charted. We know that physical, intellectual, and emotional health and maturity are usually interdependent. Into the development of a

whole man or a whole woman go all those things that signify health in all the areas and relationships of life.

For our children, economic opportunity and social security for the family, good homes and parents of intelligence and character, and community services and opportunities for their health, education, recreation, and welfare, the best that our minds can devise and experience can teach, are essential. These are definitely the concern of Government as well as of individual parents. In addition, the resources of religion are needed as never before, religion that will help to tie together the peoples and races of the earth.

We have spent ungrudgingly 2 billion dollars for the atomic bomb. We shall spend other billions in discovering and harnessing atomic energy to the pursuits of peace. Dare we fail to spend whatever may be required for the rearing and education of the human beings who will use this energy? The time is here to invest whatever is needed to assure the best opportunities for children and youth this world has ever known, for they must exercise choices and carry responsibilities unforeseen in human history. Such opportunity for every child, regardless of race, creed, color, residence, or economic circumstance, can be achieved only through the combined efforts of parents, community agencies, and Federal, State, and local Governments. Moreover, international cooperation in behalf of the welfare of children is one of the best means of promoting international understanding and friendship.

The next few years will tell the story of whether this is the birth of a golden age or the prelude to destruction. We have this one chance. Let us use this one chance well.

Katharine F. Lenroot

KATHARINE F. LENROOT
Chief, Children's Bureau

Publication of THE CHILD, Monthly Bulletin, with SOCIAL STATISTICS supplements from time to time, was authorized by the Bureau of the Budget, May 12, 1936, under Rule 42 of the Joint Committee on Printing, to meet the needs of agencies working with or for children for a regular channel of information on current developments, activities, and programs for maintaining the health of mothers and children, providing child-welfare services, and safeguarding the employment of youth. Address THE CHILD, Children's Bureau, U. S. Department of Labor, Washington 25, D. C. The Children's Bureau does not necessarily assume responsibility for the statements or opinions of contributors not connected with the Bureau. THE CHILD is for sale by the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C., at \$1 a year; foreign postage, 25 cents additional; single copies, 10 cents.

UNR
WO
FO
CHI
Its Su
ments

by MA

Chie
Unit
Rehe

Throu
United N
the task
victims o
concern
operation
Nations
Adminis
ternation
United
emergen
countrie
were in
long m
penditur
UNRRA
rations
bring in
war in
the high
children
of the
asking

THE C

UNRRA WORKS FOR CHILDREN



Photograph by UNRRA

KINDERGARTEN OVER, Ante Peruvici takes his teddy bear for a ride in the fine trolley that has been made for him in UNRRA's refugee Camp Tolumbat, Egypt, from salvaged wood. Three other sturdy youngsters—all kindergarteners—accompany him for his voyage across the sandy ground that forms Tolumbat, chosen for its fine temperate climate and its pleasant situation on the sunny shores of the Mediterranean Sea.

Its Success Depends Both on Member Governments and on People With Resources to Share

by **MARTHA BRANSCOMBE**

*Chief Child-Welfare Specialist
United Nations Relief and
Rehabilitation Administration*

Throughout the years of war the United Nations have recognized that the task of alleviating the distress of victims of war is a matter of common concern calling for international co-operation. Consequently the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration was created as an international instrument to assist the United Nations in meeting the emergency needs of their respective countries where their own resources were inadequate. Through many long months and with the expenditure of large sums of money UNRRA has made plans and preparations to fulfill its responsibility to bring immediate relief to victims of war in liberated areas. Today in the light of the appalling needs of children in Europe and in the areas of the Pacific, we are justified in asking to what extent these plans

and preparations have been effectively put into operation.

In reviewing or evaluating the activities of UNRRA it is essential to bear in mind the limitations within which UNRRA is authorized to operate. In brief, UNRRA is authorized to undertake emergency relief activities in behalf of victims of war in liberated areas only upon the request of the recognized government of the country concerned or the military authorities in control. The activities undertaken in such areas are limited to those set out in an agreement made between UNRRA and the government concerned or the military authorities in control. Thus it is clearly recognized that primary responsibility for relief and reconstruction is vested in the people of each country and that UNRRA can assist in the emergency stages only to the extent that the country cannot meet its own needs and only in such ways as the country desires.

Two major aspects of UNRRA's

activities up to the present time which have important implications for children, namely, those concerned with estimating and procuring essential relief and rehabilitation supplies and those concerned with essential health, welfare, and other technical services. While UNRRA is prepared to assist any member government with the procurement of relief supplies, it was never intended that UNRRA should provide free relief supplies for countries which had sufficient foreign-exchange resources to purchase their own supplies. Most of the western European countries, such as France, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Luxembourg, always expected to purchase and pay for their own supplies. UNRRA's attention has, therefore, been focused mainly upon obtaining relief supplies for such countries as have suffered devastation and disruption so extensive that their foreign-exchange resources are exhausted and they cannot go into the world markets and purchase their full import requirements. These countries include Greece, Yugoslavia, Poland, Czechoslovakia, and Albania, among others. In the case of these countries UNRRA has entered into agree-

ments with the recognized Governments and is currently operating in each of these areas in accordance with these agreements. The stage of development of the UNRRA program in these countries varies according to the duration of the military period and the nature and scope of activities called for in the agreement between UNRRA and the Government of each country. In the Far East UNRRA's activities have not reached the operational stage. In anticipation of the great need that will emerge in China and other Far Eastern areas, however, UNRRA is working closely with the Governments concerned in developing plans that can be put into operation without delay.

UNRRA activities global

It is impossible in this brief account to run the whole gamut of UNRRA activities, which are global in scope. To the American people, nevertheless, it is of vital concern to know what UNRRA is actually doing today for children in some of the liberated countries and for children of United Nations nationalities who have been displaced outside of their own countries. It should be borne in mind that while UNRRA is prepared within the limits of its resources to assist the liberated countries with any type of emergency service, including technical and professional personnel, or supplies required for children, its actual operations are determined by what the civilian Government of each country requests or, in the case of areas under military control, by what the military authorities in command request. As a result the programs for children vary widely.

In accordance with one of its basic policies, UNRRA works through existing national and local child-welfare organizations or other established welfare services with a view to strengthening or helping to reestablish services which normally provide care for children. Where emergency conditions call for the establishment of new emergency services, primary consideration is given to assisting the people themselves to undertake these programs. Thus UNRRA personnel does not

deal directly with individual children or set up its own services to duplicate those already existing. There are two exceptions to this principle of operation. One is in the case of children of any of the United Nations who have been displaced outside of their own country and have been cared for in refugee camps in the Middle East. The second exception affects displaced children found in enemy territory where UNRRA has been assisting the military authorities in their care and repatriation in accordance with an agreement between Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Forces and UNRRA. Even where UNRRA has provided directly for the care of displaced children, every effort has been made to help adults to provide the services and direct care for the children.

During the military period in Greece UNRRA personnel functioned as agents of the military authorities in providing emergency civilian relief. On April 1, 1945, the military ceased to function in this connection and UNRRA assumed full responsibility for relief and rehabilitation in Greece in accordance with an agreement with the Greek Government. Two experienced child-welfare specialists are on the headquarters staff of the UNRRA Mission in Greece. These specialists give consultation services to the Greek Ministry of Social Welfare and other child-welfare agencies, both official and voluntary. They also give technical assistance to UNRRA's field personnel and regional welfare officers in Greece.

Coordination of services

Through the assistance of UNRRA, the Ministry of Social Welfare has undertaken to organize its own Children's Bureau, through which it plans to coordinate all welfare services and programs for children. A Technical Committee on Child Welfare was set up by the Ministry with the assistance of UNRRA, which has brought together representatives of all major organizations in Greece, both official and voluntary, concerned with the care of children. The main object has been to insure close coordination

in the planning and operation of services for children. This committee has from time to time appointed subcommittees to deal with special problems. One subcommittee, appointed to consider the urgent need to reopen vacation colonies for debilitated children, prepared a statement of minimum standards for such colonies. Through the committee's efforts, with supplies and technical guidance from UNRRA, such colonies have been open for the past 2 months and will care for 35,000 children for 3-week periods.

Foster-home placement

Another subcommittee is currently developing a program for homeless children, who constitute one of the most urgent problems confronting the Greek Government. As a consequence of the work of this subcommittee the decision was made by the Government to institute a program of foster-home placement for the care of orphan children rather than to begin building new orphanages besides those already there.

UNRRA has been assisting in a survey of children's institutions in Greece, which is intended to serve a number of purposes: To ascertain the number and identity of children currently cared for in existing institutions; to facilitate plans to place as many of these children as possible in family homes; to locate children who are lost or are separated from their families; and to ascertain what supplies and equipment will be required to refurbish these institutions and to assure the best possible care for children remaining there.

In addition to this type of service, UNRRA is concerned with estimating and procuring needed supplies and assuring their fair distribution to restore Greek children to health and normal development. This covers food, clothing, household furnishings, and shelter.

The program in Yugoslavia presents a totally different picture from that in Greece. The Yugoslavian Government requested assistance primarily in the form of relief supplies. In accordance with the agreement between this Government and UNRRA, the Administration began operations on April 15. As one of

the major Yugoslavian community 500 child-welfare placed on to assist the zation com preparing

ITALIAN homes by the X-ray to little girl, a 1,000 person The X-ray programs.

the major problems confronting Yugoslavia is the care of approximately 500,000 homeless children, a child-welfare specialist has been placed on the UNRRA mission staff to assist the official national organization concerned with child care in preparing estimates of the supplies

needed immediately for these children. In addition to this assistance, UNRRA has undertaken to rush special food supplies for children by plane into certain areas of Yugoslavia where conditions were extremely serious and which could not be reached otherwise because of lack

ITALIAN CHILDREN, mothers, and United Nations refugees, displaced from their homes by the war, are receiving UNRRA medical care and services, one of which is X-raying to detect tuberculosis tendencies, especially among children. Here one such little girl, assisted by her mother and the UNRRA nurse, is X-rayed. She is one of 1,000 persons examined in one week at this UNRRA medical center in Cinecitta, Italy. The X-ray machine was imported to Italy by UNRRA for use with these relief programs.

Photograph by UNRRA



of transportation. Reports from the child-welfare specialist on this mission emphasize the excellent caliber of the Yugoslavian personnel and the capacity of the established services to handle their own programs if given supplies.

In recent weeks the first contingents of UNRRA personnel have gone to Czechoslovakia and Poland, where plans are being developed.

Although Italy is not a member of UNRRA, by special action of the UNRRA Council at its second session in September 1944, the sum of 50 million dollars was allocated for a limited relief program exclusively for children, mothers, and displaced persons. The program developed in Italy is intended only to supplement the basic relief program operated by the Italian Government and the Allied Control Commission and the services normally provided by Italian agencies. Primary consideration has been given to supplementary feeding for children and expectant and nursing mothers.

The feeding program has been developed through the organization of Provincial Committees which in turn work with existing groups in the communes and villages. Beginning in April 1945 with five of the most devastated provinces and the Rome and Naples areas, the program had been extended by July 30 to include most of the needy mothers and children in 28 of the 49 provinces currently under the jurisdiction of the Italian Government.

Wherever possible the feeding program is operated as a school lunch program, but in some of the more devastated areas hot meals are prepared in convents or other places and served in temporary classrooms. If no facilities are available for preparing food, arrangements are made for distributing unprepared food for home consumption. In the latter instance distribution is based on medical examinations. Through school lunches and other centers, over 400,000 mothers and children were receiving daily meals in July 1945.

In the city of Naples, during June, over 20,000 children were being fed through 33 city elementary schools. In order to continue the feeding program, schools have re-

mained open during the summer months.

Diverse groups help

The Rome Provincial Committee for UNRRA Relief, assisted by the welfare division of the UNRRA mission, started an emergency school-lunch program on June 11. By July 30 it was feeding 45,000 children in 153 schools in Rome and its suburbs. As in Naples, this scheme has made it possible to keep the schools open for the 3 summer months. The Commune of Rome is contributing one-third of the cost.

UNRRA assistance in this undertaking has drawn the cooperation of representatives of many diverse groups. The Rome Provincial Committee consists of representatives of the Vatican, and of all important Italian welfare organizations and women's organizations, as well as governmental and educational authorities. The Prefect of Rome, Dr. Giovanni Persice, chairman of the committee, has worked closely with the Director of the Welfare Division of UNRRA in this project.

Juvenile "vagrancy" is an extremely serious problem in Rome and Naples. It is expected that this cooperative effort to alleviate the food situation will have an important effect in keeping children off the streets of both cities by attracting them back to school. It is also hoped that a precedent will be set for an all-year-around school-lunch system operated by the local government and that recreational and educational summer programs will be begun along with the food program.

As the condition of children in institutions has been found critical, a survey of the child-caring institutions is in process. Meanwhile, in addition to the children fed at school, more than 12,000 children in 200 institutions within the Naples region, which includes almost every residential institution for children in Naples Province, and 16,000 children in 280 residential institutions in the Rome region are receiving milk and other foods supplied by UNRRA.

Considerable quantities of clothing and shoes have been sent forward. Special health services, which

include nutrition services, tuberculosis X-ray clinics, and malaria control have been developed.

Another type of service which UNRRA has provided for children is illustrated by the request for expert consultation services from the French Ministry concerned with the repatriation of displaced French people. UNRRA is not operating in France, as this country is fully prepared to operate its own emergency services. However, at the request of the Ministry of Repatriation UNRRA sent its Chief Child-Welfare Specialist to confer with the French authorities on some of the complex problems of registration, identification, and care of displaced children who had for various reasons become separated from their families. Through this type of consultation UNRRA has been able to coordinate its plans for the care and repatriation of displaced children in other countries with provision for the care of children found in France.

Temporary care provided

UNRRA has provided temporary care for thousands of these children displaced outside their own countries in refugee camps in the Middle East, for which UNRRA assumed responsibility in 1944 and which were previously operated by the Middle East Relief and Refugee Administration. While most of these children were accompanied by some member of their own family or a relative, some were completely alone. Most of these children were of Greek or Yugoslav origin, though other nationalities were included in smaller numbers. Today these children as well as the adults are rapidly being returned to their homes.

During recent months, UNRRA has provided personnel to assist the military authorities in the American, British, and French zones of occupation in Germany and Austria in the care and repatriation of millions of displaced persons. UNRRA personnel has been supplied in the form of teams, including welfare, nursing, and medical officers. Up to the end of July over 300 such teams had been sent to assembly centers in Germany.

Operations up to the present time have been undertaken at the request

of the military authorities in accordance with an agreement between Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Forces and UNRRA. This agreement contemplated that UNRRA would eventually assume full responsibility for this operation in the zones of Germany and Austria occupied by the American, British, and French Control Authorities. Negotiations are now in process which look toward UNRRA taking over the displaced-persons operation at an early date.

Specialists recruited

Meanwhile UNRRA's plans have encompassed special care and protection for children, and specialists have been recruited to assist in all phases of the program. Many of these specialists have already been sent forward as welfare officers on the UNRRA teams, and one specialist is attached to the Displaced Persons Branch of SHAEF.

Until now it has been impossible to determine the exact number of displaced children actually in the assembly centers in Germany, or to estimate the number not yet discovered. While exact figures are not available, it appears that in general children make up from 5 to 10 percent of the population in the assembly centers. The welfare officers on the UNRRA teams working in the centers have sent back interesting reports on the kind of activities and services being undertaken for children even in these temporary communities. Most of the work is being done by the displaced persons themselves, who are grouped according to nationality as quickly as they can be sorted out. Despite limited supplies and equipment, there are exciting accounts of setting up day nurseries, nursery schools, kindergartens, elementary schools, and other types of activities for children in the assembly centers, through which many of these children are having their first contact with a democratic way of life.

UNRRA has made arrangements in advance with such countries as Sweden and Switzerland to receive for temporary care children who cannot be adequately cared for where they are found or who need special treatment pending repatria-

non. Approximately 350 children have been removed from the Buchenwald concentration camp for care in Switzerland. This country is prepared to give temporary care to at least 2,000 of these children if necessary. It is expected that 1,000 will be sent to Sweden.

One of the most difficult problems is presented by the unaccompanied child who is without identity. While it is expected that their number will be small, the importance of protecting the rights of these children and of their families cannot be overemphasized. UNRRA considers its first responsibility is to try to establish the identity of these children and to locate their parents or relatives.

Children are truly the most tragic victims of this war. Basic to all essential services for them is the whole question of relief supplies and transportation facilities. Without milk, sugar, cereals, medical supplies, clothing, and fuel, there is little hope that UNRRA, the countries themselves, or any other authorities can avert the catastrophe that threatens not only child life today but our whole future civilization.

UNRRA was created by the United Nations. Its effectiveness in alleviating distress and assisting in the gigantic task of salvaging children from the scourges of war is in large measure dependent upon the support and cooperation of member Governments and the people of the countries possessing the vital resources required for the fulfillment of its responsibilities. The fine spirit of cooperation and the humanitarian feelings which motivated the creation of UNRRA offered great promises to the children of liberated areas. To the extent that resources are made available to UNRRA and that the countries themselves recognize the needs of their children, UNRRA will fulfill those promises. At the same time it must be remembered that UNRRA is limited to emergency relief. Vast numbers of children will require continued care and specialized services for long periods. We cannot, therefore, forget today that our common interests not only call for common action in these first emergency stages, but extend beyond and into the future.

The Bridge Between Today and Tomorrow

When the Director of War Mobilization and Reconversion made his quarterly report to the President and the Congress, released July 1—just 44 days before the collapse of Japan—he had significant remarks to make on some of the human needs

that must be met if the road we take in peace is to carry us to the "ultimate goals of a world of durable peace and an America of unprecedented prosperity." Because of their interest to workers in social-service fields, we excerpt some of these statements here:

"The United States is a country of enormous physical resources. Yet its greatest asset—the ultimate source of all its vast wealth—is people. Unless we take proper measures to give every child the right start in life—through education and adequate medical facilities—we are guilty of wanton waste.

* * *

"* * * we shall want to enjoy some of our increased national income in the form of increased public services.

* * *

"* * * An adequate unemployment compensation law is our number one legislative requirement for reconversion."

* * *

"We need to consider broadening the coverage of unemployment compensation; old-age and survivors' insurance; the provision of sickness and disability benefits; provision of better medical care; the institution of more adequate grants-in-aid to the States for hospitals and health centers; and better equalization of educational opportunities.

"Social security is vital not merely as a humanitarian but as an economic policy. Adequate protection against the major hazards of modern society is a necessary factor in maintaining mass purchasing power, which in turn is the basis of full employment.

* * *

"Only if we have a large shelf of public works in the blueprint stage will we be able to quickly get a building program under way. Under such conditions speed

would be of utmost importance to quickly provide interim employment to get our economy on the upgrade again, in the event that mass unemployment develops before business has had time to reconvert."

* * *

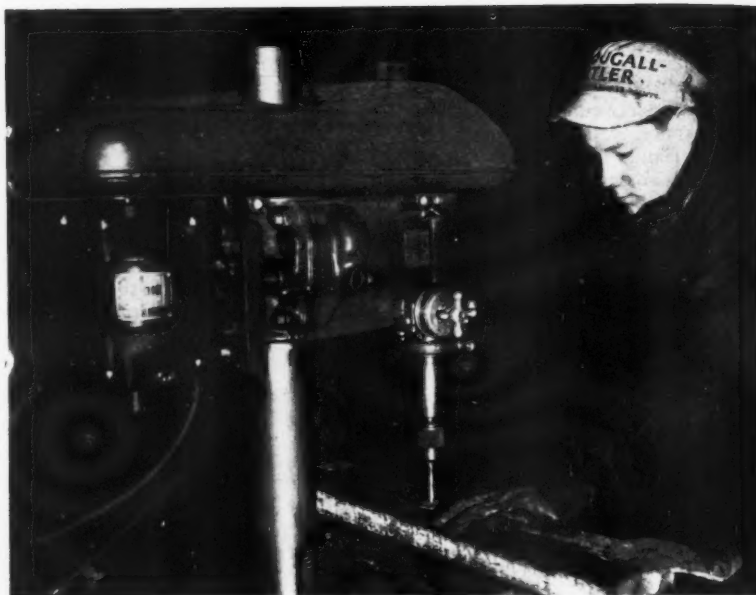
"Food is a prime requirement in liberated Europe. Generally speaking, a grown person needs about 2,000 calories a day to subsist and considerably more—some 2,600—if he is to do active work. But Greece can produce only enough food to supply 970 calories for its people, Albania, 1,015, Norway, 1,115, the Netherlands, 1,630, and Belgium, 1,795. To provide even a bare subsistence diet, these and other liberated countries must supplement their domestic food supplies with imports.

"Computing our calorie supply by the same methods used for Europe, each person in the United States will have an average of 3,050 calories a day this year, about the same as before the war. And a relatively small amount of food from us can mean a great deal to Europe. For example, if the United States were to cut down its calorie supply by only 8 percent it would be enough to increase the daily supply of the above five food-poor countries by more than 80 percent and give them the 2,600 calories a day needed for an active population."

* * *

For copies of the OWMR Director's quarterly report, "The Road to Tokyo and Beyond," write to the Office of War Information, 1400 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington 25, D. C.

A SHINY NEW MACHINE like this one may be fascinating to a boy, but it is not necessarily a safe one for him to operate. To protect boys and girls from hazardous work Congress has included child-labor provisions in the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938.



Photograph by National Youth Administration

LEARNING ABOUT CHILD LABOR

Child-labor clinics help employers understand the whys of legislation for young workers

Part of the tremendous increase that has taken place in the number of violations of the child-labor provisions of State and Federal laws is a result of lack of knowledge concerning these provisions on the part of employers who had not been employing young people in any great number prior to the war period. In order to call these provisions to the employers' attention and also to make clear to them what is happening to young people who are employed, either legally or illegally, the Children's Bureau has been encouraging and helping groups of employers to hold conferences, usually known as child-labor clinics, in many cities throughout the country. A number of these were held in the late spring and early summer of 1945, before the schools were closed for the summer.

The first step is usually to present the idea of the clinics, with emphasis on the educational approach, to officials in the State departments of education and labor and to other officials interested in the employment of minors. After the Bureau

has been given assurance by the State officials that they will cooperate in the program, the cities in which the clinics are to be held are visited by the Bureau's child-labor consultant or the United States Department of Labor field assistant on information services, representing the consultant, to make plans with the local representatives of the departments and with local groups of employers. Because the meetings are for employers they are usually sponsored by the local chamber of commerce or by one of the employer groups. In some places service clubs such as the Lions Club either sponsor the meeting or join with the chamber of commerce in sponsoring it. Since representatives of the United States Employment Service and the War Manpower Commission place young people in jobs and therefore need to know the child-labor provisions of the Federal and State laws, these officials are also consulted and invited to attend the clinics.

In some areas local trade unions participate in the employers' clinics,

and in some separate meetings for labor representation are arranged.

How the Clinics Are Organized

The purpose of the clinics is to explain the child-labor provisions of the Federal and State laws and to give information on how minors may obtain employment certificates or working papers in order to be legally employed. There are luncheon meetings, dinner meetings, afternoon meetings, and evening meetings. (One was held in the morning as part of a day's program, when employers had come together to get information on National War Labor Board policies.) The custom in the community where the clinic is held usually governs the time of day chosen.

The plan of the meeting is to have a short introductory speech by a representative of the Wage and Hour and Public Contracts Divisions, which emphasizes the great rise in the employment of minors, as shown by the large increase in child-labor violations; this is followed by a talk by the child-labor

consultant
summarizing
visions of
State law
tification
by repre
and edu
talks poi
minors l
include
people b

Because
tant par
are kept
period o
more th
age. The
some pl
to write
given to
These q
ing info
nected
phazied
tended
tion and
which t
Not onl
tioning
ployers
the spea
asked q

Child
and Fe
after th
that tim
not tak
the law
take the

Att

The
that hav
very go
persons
merce o
sent ou
giving
and urg
ent. Al
ticipati
employ
were s
many
tended.
officers
cates at
them c
surrou

Prior
sent to
at the

consultant of the Children's Bureau, summarizing the child-labor provisions of the Federal laws. The State laws and the employment-certificating procedures are explained by representatives of the State labor and education departments. These talks point out the large number of minors leaving school and frequently include a plea for sending young people back to school.

Because questions are an important part of the sessions the talks are kept short, so that the whole period of set speeches does not take more than 45 minutes on the average. The sponsoring organization in some places has asked its members to write questions, which are then given to the speakers to be answered. These questions include no identifying information and cannot be connected with any firm. It is emphasized that the meetings are intended to give employers information and not to get information on which to base inspections of firms. Not only has there been active questioning at the meetings, but employers have often gathered around the speakers after the meeting and asked questions.

Child-labor material, both State and Federal, is placed on a table after the meeting. This is done at that time so that the employers need not take notes on the provisions of the laws during discussion. They can take the summaries with them.

Attendance and Publicity

The attendance at the meetings that have already been held has been very good, ranging from 50 to 185 persons. The local chamber of commerce or other sponsoring group has sent out notices to their members, giving the names of the speakers and urging the members to be present. Although most of those participating in the clinics have been employers, in two cities invitations were sent to social agencies, and many of their representatives attended. In one city more than 15 officers issuing employment certificates attended the clinics, many of them coming from schools in the surrounding rural counties.

Prior to each clinic, releases were sent to the local newspapers, and at the time of the meeting copies

of excerpts from the talks were distributed to reporters who came. The resulting publicity on the Federal and State child-labor laws had the additional value of helping the community know the child-labor requirements better.

Apparel Industry

Representatives of several associations of employers in the apparel industry came to a special meeting for them held in the regional office in New York City. This was probably the first child-labor clinic ever to be held with employers in a single industry. The associations represented about 8,000 employers, and they were very much interested in the child-labor regulations. The same type of program used in the other clinics was given, but with local speakers. A local city-school issuing officer told how young workers might obtain employment certificates and what plans had been developed to handle the usual rush for summer certificates. At this meeting the child-labor consultant presented a special summary of how the child-labor laws applied to this industry, originally prepared at the request of one of the associations for its membership. Most of the representatives of other associations at-

tending wished to use it to inform their own members.

Results

Judging from the interest shown by all attending child-labor clinics, it is believed that they have been well worth while and have demonstrated a very effective educational technique in administration of child-labor laws. Employers and issuing officers of the local schools have more definite information about the child-labor regulations. If they find a problem at a later date, they know where to go for the solution.

The value set on the conferences by community representatives was voiced by a social worker who attended one of the clinics, who said that "it was epoch-making for the city that employers, including all types of industrial and mercantile establishments, could have the child-labor provisions of the State and Federal laws explained to them in such a clear, concise way."

When employers, as well as the general public, know more about methods of safeguarding the employment of minors, we may be sure that there will be greater opportunities for better education and health of young people, upon whom depends the future of the Nation.

Belt-and-Buckle Factory Owner Fined for Child-Labor Violation

Recently the owner of a factory where 20 children under the age of 16 were employed making belts and belt buckles for interstate commerce was found guilty in a Federal district court of violating the child-labor provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act. The owner was fined \$1,000, and the manager, \$250.

The belt-and-buckle factory is located on the fourth floor of a loft building, and children had been seen entering and leaving the building, but whenever a child-labor inspection was made no children were seen in the factory.

Finally an arrangement was made by which four child-labor inspectors were to visit the factory at the same time. One went to the plant office to talk with company officials, while the other three were stationed at the

three exits—a freight elevator, a passenger elevator, and a fire escape—through which it was believed that the children were accustomed to leave, upon a signal from the employer or his representative, whenever an inspector appeared.

As was expected, as soon as the officials saw an inspector enter the office, the children made for the exits, but inspectors barred the way.

Of the 20 children who were employed under the legal minimum age of 16, 1 was only 13 years of age when he was hired; 7 were 14 years old. Three of the 14-year-olds had been illegally employed from 6 months to a year. Twelve of the 20 worked frequently, or constantly, at operating foot presses; most of the others worked as delivery boys.

Secretary Schwellenbach Revokes Wartime Child- Labor Exemption

Secretary of Labor Schwellenbach has revoked a wartime exemption to the 18-year minimum age applicable to girls working on Government contracts under the Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act.

When increased production was vital to the progress of the war, in 1942, Secretary of Labor Perkins granted this wartime exemption pursuant to authority given in the Public Contracts Act. It lowered the 18-year minimum age for girls to 16—the minimum age for employment of boys under the Walsh-Healey Act—and permitted girls 16 and 17 years of age to work under certain conditions. On June 30, as one of her last official acts, Secretary Perkins had revoked the order, effective October 1, 1945.

The action taken by Secretary Schwellenbach makes the revocation effective earlier, in order to halt employment of 16- and 17-year-old girls as quickly as possible. It provides that girls under 18 years of age may not be employed on contracts subject to the Walsh-Healey Act awarded after September 4, but permits girls 16 and 17 years of age to be employed in the performance of contracts awarded on or before September 4, subject to the conditions set up in the 1942 order.

As a result of the Secretary's order, girls under 18 years of age will be prohibited from employment on contracts awarded on or after September 5, and girls 16 and 17 working on contracts previously awarded must be employed under the terms of the original 1942 exemption order. This order required:

(1) That no girl under 16 years of age shall be employed.

(2) That no girl under 18 years of age shall be employed for more than 8 hours in any one day, or between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m., or in any way contrary to State laws governing hours of work.

(3) That no girl under 18 years of age shall be employed in any operation or occupation which, under the Fair Labor Standards Act or under any State law or administrative ruling, is determined to be hazardous in nature or dangerous to health.

(4) That for every girl under the age of 18 years employed by him the con-

tractor shall obtain and keep on file a certificate of age showing that the girl is at least 16 years of age.

(5) That a specific and definite luncheon period of at least 30 minutes be regularly granted any women workers under 18 years of age.

(6) That no girl under 18 shall be employed at less than the minimum hourly rate set by or under the Fair Labor Standards Act or the Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act for the industry in which the exemption is granted.

This order appeared in the Federal Register, August 25, 1945.

Children's Bureau Con- tinues Its Series on Trends in Child Labor

The picture of child labor and youth employment has changed often since a quarter of a century ago, when the Children's Bureau first published figures on employment certificates issued to children going to work. The most recent report in this series, by Ella Arvilla Merritt and Floy Hendricks, published in the Monthly Labor Review for April 1945, shows wartime increases in such employment, caused by urgent demand for workers, high wartime wages, patriotic pressures, and social restlessness.

Employment and age-certificate reports show the trend in child labor and youth employment from year to year rather than a cross section of the actual number of young persons employed at any given moment. The Children's Bureau reports, published periodically, are based on records sent to the Bureau by State and local certificate-issuing officials in nearly all the States and in a number of cities throughout the country. They give not only current information as to trends in child labor by individual States and cities, but also significant facts about the age and sex of these workers, the school grades they have completed, and the industries and occupations in which they work. A reprint of the latest report, and of the prior ones, can be obtained from the Children's Bureau, as well as a separate chart showing the increase in the number of boys and girls 14 through 17 years of age who obtained certificates for employment in 1944 as compared with similar figures for previous years.

Interagency Committee on Youth Employment and Education

An interagency committee composed of representatives of the various Federal agencies whose programs particularly concern young people was set up in April by the Secretary of Labor to consider education and employment problems of young people in the reconversion and postwar periods. The Director of the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion approved the creation of the committee and the Secretary of Labor arranged for the designation of members by the heads of the Federal agencies concerned. The agencies represented on this Interagency Committee on Youth Employment and Education are the Department of Agriculture, the Office of Community War Services, the Office of Education, the Social Security Board, the War Manpower Commission, and four Bureaus of the Department of Labor: The Children's Bureau, the Division of Labor Standards, the Bureau of Labor Statistics, and the Women's Bureau. The committee, of which Katharine F. Lenroot, Chief of the Children's Bureau, is chairman, is concerned with planning for action to meet the needs of youth, and is considering student aid, counseling services, placement services, work opportunities, and other matters.

"Education to Promote the General Welfare" will be the general theme of American Education Week 1945, which will be observed November 11 to 17. The observance is sponsored by the National Education Association, the American Legion, the United States Office of Education, and the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, in cooperation with other National, State, and local groups. For further information write to the National Education Association of the United States, 1201 Sixteenth Street NW Washington 6.

BRITISH REPORT ON CHILDREN BORN OUT OF WEDLOCK

Homes for unmarried mothers and their babies, from which the mother can go out to work, leaving the baby under good care, are recommended by the National Council for the Unmarried Mother and Her Child, in its most recent report.

That these homes might be established by public agencies, either welfare agencies as part of their work for unmarried mothers or local governments as part of their housing plans, is the belief of the Council, which includes in its membership representatives of city and borough governments as well as of private organizations.

Such homes, the report says, might well be suitable for widowed or deserted mothers as well as for unmarried mothers and would help to make the child born out of wedlock less conspicuous since he would be merely one of other fatherless children.

The Council does not in itself have responsibility for any maternity home, but about 70 such homes, public and private, are affiliated with it. A representative of each is a member of one of the Council's committees. Encouragement of accommodations to meet the varying needs of unmarried mothers and their babies has been one of the Council's activities ever since its founding a quarter of a century ago.

The Council also works for reform of legislation affecting children born out of wedlock, encourages local public authorities to use their powers to care for such children and their mothers, and helps and advises individual mothers. It also tries to educate public opinion as to the needs of children born out of wedlock in an effort to promote their well-being and to enable them to attain full and worthy citizenship in spite of the handicap of illegitimate birth.

The need for public education, says the Council's report, is indicated by the fact that the general public, and perhaps a good many nurses and doctors, assume that a baby born out of wedlock should be

placed for adoption, and as soon as possible. Those who make this assumption, however, do not recognize the difficulty of fitting the child into the home, nor the need for training and experience in arranging adoptions. They have not fully considered the suffering and unhappiness that may arise if a child is unsuitably placed. The Council states as its own view, that adoption should take place only when the mother cannot care adequately for the child and that adoptions should be arranged only by trained and experienced persons.

Use of abridged birth certificates, which omit any indication of legitimacy or illegitimacy, is recommended by the Council for all persons, with possible use of the full certificate when special circumstances require it.

A difficult question for the Council's legal committee was the nationality of children born to unmarried British servicewomen in foreign countries. Formerly such a child did not have British nationality, but now in such cases a certificate of British nationality will be issued, says the report, to be followed when the child is of suitable age by the taking of the oath of allegiance.

Canadian men returning home for discharge from the armed services and leaving children in Great Britain who were born out of wedlock, it is reported, are making voluntary payments toward the support of these children through a plan of cooperation between the Canadian Welfare Council and the military authorities. This plan has been carried out with the help of the National Council for the Unmarried Mother and Her Child, which acts as the central agency in Great Britain.

Cases of married women who have or expect children by men other than their husbands continue to come to the Council's attention. Often the married couple have never had a home or any normal married life. Often the husband has been abroad for several years. Sometimes

the new baby is born into a family of older legitimate children. These cases are extremely difficult, says the report. It seems impossible to lay down any general principle about them.

The American Red Cross has worked with the Council in caring for British dependents of men in the armed forces of the United States, and for some time the Council has acted as a clearing house for British unmarried mothers who have made direct application to the American Red Cross instead of applying to a British agency for advice and financial help. Such cases are now referred to local welfare workers.

The Council reports that it often hears from applicants of many years ago whose children, now grown up, ask advice upon questions of guardianship, change of name, or petition for adoption.

For copies of this 24-page report, the Council's twenty-fifth, requests should go to Carnegie House, Piccadilly, London W. 1, England.

"Films From Britain" is a catalog of British films available in the United States through the British Information Services, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York 20.

Among the films of interest to child-welfare workers is "Second Freedom," which is concerned with such subjects as health insurance and housing.

Copies of the catalog may be had from any of its six offices—in New York, Chicago, Hollywood, Atlanta, San Francisco, and Washington, and also from British consular offices in 17 additional cities.

Half a million British children 12 years old or younger, organized in 300 "junior clubs," have the opportunity to see experimental motion pictures made especially for children, under a program sponsored by the Advisory Council on Children's Entertainment Films, according to the British Information Services, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York 20.

HOW POLIO STRUCK IN MALTA

At the end of a severe air-bombing which lasted for more than 30 months, Malta and its neighboring island, Gozo, underwent an epidemic of poliomyelitis, which lasted from mid-November 1942 to the end of February 1943, according to a report by H. J. Seddon and his colleagues in the *Quarterly Journal of Medicine*.¹

The epidemic took a heavy toll of children and of servicemen who had been sent to the islands from the United Kingdom, but scarcely touched Maltese adults, whether civilians or servicemen.

A total of 483 persons developed poliomyelitis during the epidemic, which reached its peak when 108 cases were reported during a December week. Of the 483 persons affected, 426 were civilians, 57 servicemen. Of the civilians 422 were under 20 years of age, and 397 were under 5. Eleven of the 57 servicemen died; 15 of the 426 civilians.

Poliomyelitis has been endemic in Malta for many years, the report states, though the annual number of notifications of cases has always been small, and never before has there been an outbreak that could be called an epidemic.

These islands are densely populated—Malta, 2,551 persons to the square mile; Gozo, 1,087.

War conditions had brought about serious overcrowding among civilians in Malta since the autumn of 1940, especially during the months when the intense aerial bombardment drove thousands into shelters, and many other persons whose homes had been destroyed took refuge with friends in outlying towns and villages. Living conditions during the bombing were described by the chief medical officer as follows:

In the danger areas large numbers of people established themselves in tunnels, basements, crypts of churches. . . . Shelters that had been prepared for temporary occupation during air raids became resident quarters. . . . Families had to be accommodated in schools, old churches, corridors of convents. . . . In some of

these places even the most essential sanitary requirements were lacking, and in others the conveniences that had existed were quite inadequate for the number of people that had come to live there. Overcrowding continually increased as more dwelling houses were demolished or damaged.

In spite of the overcrowding among the Maltese civilians, there were only seven families in which more than one child was affected, and none in which there were more than two cases. Also the crowding was much less in Gozo than in Malta, yet the incidence of poliomyelitis was about the same in the two islands. There was little crowding among the servicemen, yet this group proved especially vulnerable. Incidentally, the native servicemen and the United Kingdom servicemen lived and worked in close contact, yet only the United Kingdom men developed the disease.

The food supply in Malta during the bombing became dangerously low; in the more fertile Gozo the food situation was much better. The similar incidence of the disease in the respective islands led the authors to consider lack of food unrelated to the epidemic. Dried milk was distributed to both islands, especially to children and to men in the services, but no connection could be traced between the distribution of the dried milk and the geographical incidence of the disease.

The use of sewage in certain parts of Malta for fertilizing crops sug-

gested the possibility that the disease might have been spread by contamination of the water supply or of crops, but the evidence was against this possibility.

The authors comment on the time of the year at which the outbreak occurred (November to February), saying that this season, though unusual for an epidemic of poliomyelitis in the Temperate Zones, cannot be regarded as uncommon; they cite several epidemics, including one that lasted from February to May in Samoa in 1936, and another that lasted from April to June in Puerto Rico in 1930. In connection with the time of year, the article states that the winter months in the Maltese Islands are cool like an English autumn (15° to 60° F.), with more rain than at any other time of the year. There was rain on more than half the days of the first 3 months of the epidemic (November, December, and January), and there were heavy rains and gales shortly before the outbreak of the disease.

During November and December there was an increase in the incidence of common colds among the United Kingdom servicemen.

The months in which the epidemic took place are a period when flies are less numerous on the islands than at any other time of the year. Furthermore, they were fewer during the time of the epidemic than during the corresponding period of the previous year.

HEALTH AUTHORITIES of the Maltese Islands could find no relation between the spread of poliomyelitis and any contamination of food during the long period of bombing. Here, as a precaution against milk-borne diseases, pasteurized milk is being distributed after one of the severe air-bombings of Valletta, a city on the Island of Malta.



¹Seddon, H. J., T. Agius, H. G. G. Bernstein, and R. E. Tunbridge: The Epidemic of Poliomyelitis in Malta, 1942-43. *Quarterly Journal of Medicine*, Oxford, England. Vol. 14, No. 1 (January 1945), pp. 1-26.

Broad Eligence fant

A series for mated baby, u ternity a even aft honorabl demoted nant at s when he est pay g serving a same bas band and missing

This is entitled ment's Infant-C with a r mendatio benefits wives w for them fore the the arme charge o

Hereto care had iceman v grades. establish care is p nant wh eligible g cases is during h larly, if whose m under th those gra infant's p of life, th under th

The gr icy, whic 1945, wil charged gram for infant is regulation about w existed, t their infan interpreta

C. B. Health Notes

Broader Interpretation of Eligibility Under Emergency Maternity and Infant Care Program

A serviceman's wife may apply for maternity care and care for her baby, under the Emergency Maternity and Infant Care program, even after her husband has been honorably discharged, promoted, or demoted, provided she was pregnant at some time during the period when he was in one of the four lowest pay grades of the services or was serving as an aviation cadet. On the same basis, she may apply if the husband and father is a prisoner of war, missing in action, or dead.

This interpretation as to who is entitled to care under the Government's Emergency Maternity and Infant-Care program is in accord with a recent Congressional recommendation designed to make the benefits of this program available to wives who fail to make application for themselves and their infants before the status of their husbands in the armed forces is changed by discharge or promotion.

Heretofore the application for care had to be made while the serviceman was in one of the eligible grades. Now all that is required to establish eligibility for maternity care is proof that the wife was pregnant while he was in one of the eligible grades. The infant in these cases is also eligible for full care during his first year of life. Similarly, if the father of an infant whose mother did not receive care under the program was in one of those grades at any time during the infant's prenatal period or first year of life, the infant's eligibility for care under the program is established.

The greatest effect of the new policy, which is retroactive to January 1945, will be to bring infants of discharged servicemen under the program for the full year in which the infant is entitled to care. The new regulation also clears up a matter about which some confusion has existed, that is, whether widows and their infants are eligible. Under this interpretation they are eligible.

The procedure to be followed in establishing eligibility is simple. The wife has only to show to her physician or other authorized person assisting her in filling out the application form an envelope, or a V-mail letter from her husband; or her allowance card or other official communication dated at a time when he was in one of the eligible grades. If she does not have such evidence the State health department can make inquiry of the appropriate armed service.

Under the Emergency Maternity and Infant Care program, complete maternity care, including medical and hospital service, is provided for wives of servicemen in the four lowest pay grades, and aviation cadets, and medical and hospital care is available for their infants through the infant's first year. Care is provided without regard to race or place of residence or financial status.

Children's Bureau Policy on Safeguarding Information Concerning Crippled Children

In planning for and providing services to a crippled child the State crippled children's agency obtains detailed information concerning the health and personal circumstances of the child and his family. Such information, when obtained by a private physician in the practice of medicine, a clinic, a hospital, or other individuals or agencies that provide medical care, is considered confidential and is carefully guarded against inappropriate disclosure. Several State crippled children's agencies have requested the Children's Bureau to state the policy that is to be followed by them in this matter.

The Children's Bureau believes that it is essential that the crippled children's agency safeguard the use and disclosure of information as to personal facts, circumstances, and identifying details concerning crippled children. Failure to provide such safeguards might deter the parent available to the child under the program. Furthermore, the child

must be protected from any publicity that might interfere with his social readjustment to the community. Since the State agency would not be able to control the use of information disclosed to other agencies or individuals, the disclosure of such information might result in conflicting plans for the child and might actually delay the carrying out of essential services.

* * *

The problem of safeguarding the confidential nature of information concerning crippled children obtained by State agencies was the subject of discussion at the meeting of the State directors of crippled children's services held in Washington on November 27, 28, and 29, 1944. It was the general sense of the State directors and others attending the conference that in States which restrict the disclosure of confidential information regarding individual crippled children such practices should be continued, and in the remaining States which have no established policy on this matter adequate safeguards should be provided to protect the interests of the crippled child and his parents. It was also felt that the Children's Bureau should state the policy to be followed in this matter so that problems in this regard might be handled similarly on local, State, and Federal levels.

The Children's Bureau has therefore formulated the following policy:

All information obtained by the State agency in the course of administration of the program as to personal facts, circumstances, and identifying details concerning crippled children under the program, including their medical condition and treatment, shall be held in confidence; provided, however, that such information may be divulged or published under the following circumstances: (a) For purposes directly connected with and necessary for the provision of care and services to such children; (b) in summary, statistical, or other form which does not identify such children; (c) on request of parents or guardians of such children or their authorized representatives; or (d) on request of an officer or employee of the Federal or State Government with official duties and responsibilities related to the administration of the program.

Every State crippled children's agency will be requested to include in its official plan for crippled children for fiscal year 1946 suitable rules and procedures that will restrict the use and disclosure of information as indicated in this policy.



FOR YOUR BOOKSHELF

PSYCHOLOGY FOR THE RETURNING SERVICEMAN. Prepared by a Committee of the National Research Council. Edited by Irwin L. Child, Yale University, and Marjorie Van De Water, Science Service. Published by the *Infantry Journal*, 1115 Seventeenth Street NW., Washington 6, D. C. 1945. 243 pp. 25 cents.

Addressed to the returning serviceman, this book has interest also for his family and for others interested in human behavior.

Of special interest to readers of *THE CHILD* are the chapters that deal with family life. Chapter 7, on "Being a father," includes a brief sketch of child development. It interprets what absence of the father may have meant to the young child and the older child of each sex. It describes reactions that the father may observe in the children as well as those that occur in himself, and suggests ways in which to establish or reestablish a sound father-child relationship and to help the child make a good adjustment.

BUILDING A BETTER SOUTHERN REGION THROUGH EDUCATION: a study in State and regional cooperation. Edited by Edgar L. Morphet with the assistance of the coordinators, chairmen, and executive committee. Southern States Work-Conference on School Administrative Problems, Tallahassee, Fla., 1945.

Each year since 1940 the Southern States Work-Conference on School Administrative Problems, which is sponsored by the State departments of education and State education associations of 14 Southern States, has given special study to a limited number of timely educational programs. As these studies were carried out, however, it became more clear that the basic problem that must be faced grows out of the fact that the Southern region has an abundance of resources both human and natural, yet has the lowest level of living in the Nation.

It is evident, says the editor of the report in the foreword, that many of the resources of the Southern region are either being wasted or not properly utilized. If these resources are to be more effectively used for the benefit of the people, the schools and colleges of the region must consciously face the problems involved and carefully plan to assist in their solution.

Because of the importance of the basic problem the Work-Conference has made

the comprehensive study reported in this volume, involving all phases of education as related to the resources of the region.

According to the editor, the problems of the South cannot wait on the sponsorship or leadership of the Federal Government or of any other agency outside the South. It is clearly and definitely the obligation and responsibility of the people of the Southern region and of every State in the region to face these problems and to take every possible step toward their solution.

Persons concerned with child labor and with employment programs, particularly in relationship to the responsibilities of the schools, may find of special interest the chapters on "Meeting special educational needs," "Organizing State programs of vocational education," and "The administration of pupil personnel."

TODAY'S CHILDREN FOR TOMORROW'S WORLD; a guide to the study of the child from infancy to six, by Aline B. Auerbach. Child Study Association of America, 221 West 57th Street, New York 19. 1944. 24 pp.

This manual for child study, with suggestions for group leaders, is sponsored by the Child Study Association and the American Association of University Women.

Since our only safe prediction is that tomorrow's world will be a changing one, the booklet suggests, let us equip our children to meet changes constructively. It presents outlines for the discussion of such basic questions as what makes a good home, what makes children act the way they do, and how to help children to develop responsibility. Attention is given to special wartime problems encountered in maintaining a good home under changing conditions, in meeting the child care needs, of a community, and in growing up in a democracy. The material is designed to stimulate thought and discussion by parent groups, rather than to provide final answers. A selected bibliography is included with each section.

PATIENTS HAVE FAMILIES, by Henry B. Richardson. The Commonwealth Fund, New York. 1945. 408 pp. \$3.

This book deals with the concept that in diagnosis and treatment of illness and in the preservation of health, the family must be considered the unit of illness and the unit of treatment. In presenting this subject the author draws on his individual experience as a physician and on findings

and conclusions of the Family Study, "a venture in cooperative thinking about illness in families," which he directed and in which members of the medical, social-work, and public-health-nursing professions participated.

Case material is effectively used to show the stresses and strains of family relationships, characteristic family patterns appearing in illness, and the effect of the family situation on illness.

The author describes the functions and techniques of the medical-social worker, the family case worker and the public-health nurse. He shows how the services of these workers can contribute to the physician's understanding of the family and how medical care becomes more effective through a coordinated plan of treatment utilizing the resources within the hospital and in the community.

This book should be of particular interest to physicians, social workers, public-health nurses, and others concerned with family and social welfare.

EPILEPSY—THE GHOST IS OUT OF THE CLOSET. Pamphlet No. 98. Public Affairs Committee, Inc., 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York 20. 1944. 32 pp. 10 cents.

The story of Helen, a 12-year-old with epilepsy whose parents' attitude with regard to the disease has helped her to live a normal life, is contrasted in the first few pages of this pamphlet with the story of another little girl named Mary, also with epilepsy, whose parents treat her as though she were in mortal danger, and who is developing an immature personality that she will have a hard time correcting later on even though her seizures stop completely.

We now know, the pamphlet says, that a person with tuberculosis or infantile paralysis has an excellent chance of recovering and living normally—provided he has good medical care and that he and his family learn to work hand in hand with the physician. The same is true of epilepsy.

At least 500,000 persons in the United States suffer from epilepsy, and 70 percent or more of patients have the symptoms before they are 20, according to this pamphlet, which includes a simple discussion of epilepsy—cause, diagnosis, treatment, work placement, role of heredity—and steps that should be taken to change the present attitude of society toward the disease.

FOSTER-HOME CARE FOR MENTAL PATIENTS. by Hester B. Crutcher, Director of Social Work, State of New York Department of Mental Hygiene. Commonwealth Fund, 41 East 57th Street, New York 22, N. Y. 1944. 199 pp. \$2.

A family-care program may be developed for two general groups of patients, according to the author. The larger group will include patients, many of them mentally ill, who are not expected to improve much, but who need a moderate degree of physical comfort, a sympathetic caretaker, some freedom to wander about the

house and grounds, and simple work or recreation of various kinds according to their interests. The smaller group will include patients who are placed in families as a step toward normal life, with the expectation that the patient will eventually find a permanent place for himself in the community.

The author cites the fact that many low-grade mental defectives who can never be trained to look after themselves either socially or economically, but who are quiet, clean, and pleasant, respond well to the individual attention which they receive in a foster family. The first group includes some of these.

Among the patients in the second group may be some high-grade mentally defective children placed in foster-family care primarily for therapeutic reasons, but also to demonstrate their potentialities for community adjustment in a suitable environment. New York State usually has about 80 children under 16 placed in family care, according to a personal communication from the author.

A chapter of the book is devoted to the subject of selection of patients, another to selection of homes, and another to supervision.

Experience in several States during the past 10 years, says the author, has shown that family care is an effective administrative procedure. It is effective for the following reasons: A large proportion of patients so placed make a relatively permanent and satisfactory adjustment; it releases space for other patients in need of specialized treatment and for those from whom the community needs protection; and it provides care for the patient at less cost than hospital maintenance.

An appendix describes active programs in nine States, and prospective programs in three. The book includes an excellent bibliography.

SUGGESTIONS FOR LEADERS OF JUNIOR CHILD-CARE AIDES. Prepared for the New York State Home Economics Association, 98 Martha Van Rensselaer Hall, Ithaca, N. Y. Leader's packet (four booklets), 35 cents per packet, postpaid. 15 pp. Set of three booklets for students, 25 cents per set postpaid. 32 pp. each.

Leaders of training groups of teen-age girls who are planning to take care of young children in their own homes or in the homes of friends and neighbors should find this packet useful. Besides a booklet addressed directly to leaders, it contains three addressed to girls. Taking Care of a Baby, Taking Care of a Preschool Child, and Taking Care of a School-Age Child. The one for leaders includes an annotated list of 20 books and pamphlets. The three for girls describe activities that children of different ages enjoy and give concrete suggestions that should help to make baby tending a learning experience and not simply a source of extra spending money. Although they are written in simple language they may be difficult for some high-school girls. They are illustrated attractively.

CHILDREN AROUND THE WORLD

MEXICO

School Attendance

The average daily attendance in the public schools of the Republic of Mexico, according to a recent study, is 68 percent of the enrollment. In the Federal District, which includes Mexico City, the attendance is 73 percent.

The reported causes of this deficient attendance are mostly socioeconomic, including lack of food, clothing, textbooks, and other school material; employment of the children; illness; migration of the families; and unsatisfactory condition of schools; also alcoholism of the parents, disorganized family life, and frequent holidays and celebrations of family events. The attendance is also said to have been affected by the teacher's personality, his fitness for the work, and the relations between him and his pupils.

El Popular, Mexico City, April 13, 1945.

Care of Malnourished Children

In the course of an extended campaign on behalf of malnourished children, which began in Mexico City early in the present year under the leadership of the Federal Bureau of Child Health and Welfare, the Federal Government is planning to establish clinics for malnourished children. Each of the clinics, which will be maintained by that Bureau, will have accommodations for 50 children less than 6 years of age. Medical care and nourishing food will be provided. The average stay of each child at the clinic will be 1 month. Admission will be limited to children from low-income families. A nominal charge will be made to those able to pay; others will be admitted free. The children's mothers will be instructed in child care and feeding and will be required to serve a meal to their own children at the clinics at least once a day.

Courses for physicians and nurses in the treatment of malnourished children will be given at the clinics; medical and social studies will be made.

The clinics will cooperate with the Children's Hospital of Mexico City and the 18 health centers maintained in that city and surrounding territory by the Federal Department of Health and Social Welfare.

The work will be financed by the Government and by private persons.

Excelsior, February 9, 1945; La Prensa, January 28, 1945; and El Popular, January 28, 1945; all of Mexico City.

URUGUAY

First National Conference on Social Aid to Youth

The first National Conference on Social Aid to Youth to be held in Uruguay took place in Montevideo in March 1945. The importance of normal family life for the child receiving social aid was emphasized at the conference; also the importance of proper upbringing and education and of vocational guidance and occupational training. Measures for the prevention of delinquency and antisocial conduct were also discussed.

It was decided that the Council of the Child, official national agency in charge of child-welfare work, should forward to the President of the Republic a statement of the conclusions reached by the Conference and point out the measures that need to be taken immediately.

El Pais, Montevideo, May 25, 1945.

CHILE

Psychiatric Services for Children

A Central Service of Child Psychopathology and Vocational Guidance (Servicio Central de Psicopatología Infantil y Orientación Profesional) has been recently established in Chile for the purpose of coordinating all activities on behalf of children with psychiatric or behavior problems. The Service, which is to be a unit of the Bureau of Child Welfare (Dirección de Protección a la Infancia y Adolescencia) is to conduct neuropsychiatric studies of children who have mental disorders, or who present behavior problems, or who are referred to the Service for other reasons by

Boletín Médico-Social, Santiago de Chile, January-February 1945.

Division of Aid to School Children

One of the Division's main functions will be the administration of medical and dental care for school children. All school children will be given periodic physical examinations, and children from low-income families will receive free treatment in dispensaries and hospitals and also free medicines. In emergency, or during epidemics, all children will be treated free of charge. The physicians, dentists, nurses, and other staff engaged in this work will be paid by the Government. Measures will be taken to encourage physicians and dentists to settle in rural localities.

The Division has been directed to establish residential schools in isolated localities. During the summer these schools will be used as vacation places for children.

The funds for this work will be provided from annual appropriations by the national treasury; private gifts will also be accepted.

Boletín Oficial, Buenos Aires, March 24, 1945.

For the purpose of centralizing work for neglected and delinquent

The decree also provides for the appointment by the Bureau of Social Welfare within 30 days of a committee of experts for the study of organization on a national scale of welfare work for neglected and delinquent children, juvenile courts, aid to mothers, and related problems. The committee is required to

Boletín Oficial, Buenos Aires, April 17 1945.

In order to reduce the number of children in institutions and to keep children in their homes, the Minister of Justice of Argentina has recently approved, as a regular policy, the use of public funds for financial aid to families.

Infancia y Juventud, Buenos Aires, No. 31-32, 1944.

Among the American Republics that have at least one postage-stamp issue carrying a picture connected with child health or welfare are Brazil, Colombia, Cuba, Mexico, Peru, and Venezuela.

For the last few years you have aided magnificently in one of the great struggles of mankind to preserve justice and freedom. At home and at jobs you have proved that you can concentrate on getting things done.

If you are of high-school age, there is no better way in which to serve the Nation and yourself than to enroll in high school, put earnest efforts into your studies, and obtain a diploma. Later, when you go to college or begin a career, you will be thankful that you seized upon this opportunity. For education opens many doors, eases many paths.

L. B. S. Mosler & Co.

thin
door

April

ness

er of
deep
ster
ntly
the
aid

No.

plies
camp
ected
are
kico,

e

e

e

e

e

e

e

e

e

e

e

e

e

e

e

e

e

e

e

e

e

e

e

e

e

e

e

e

e

e

e

e

e

e

e